



Washington State Department of
Early Learning

ECEAP Reminders and Links

February 1, 2010

E-mail: eceap@del.wa.gov

Web: www.del.wa.gov/eceap

Due Dates

Submit January Monthly Report Forms & Voucher	By February 15
Correct all error/incomplete records in EMS	By February 15
Complete health and developmental screenings (Standards D- 7 and E-10)	By 90 days from class start
Complete dental screenings (Standard D- 8)	By 90 days from class start
Complete medical exams (Standard D- 9)	By 90 days from class start
Staff qualifications update	February 28
DECA order	March 30
Service Area Agreements updates	May 30
Self-Assessment	June 30
ECEAP Outcomes	June 30

ECEAP Updates and Announcements

SAVE THE DATE for DEL ECEAP Directors Meeting

DEL is sponsoring a two-day ECEAP Directors Meeting on April 15 and 16, 2010, at the Lacey Community Center. The agenda will be developed in discussion with your Steering Committee. Please contribute your agenda ideas to your Steering Committee representative. For more information and to register, go to del.wa.gov/publications/eceap/docs/SpringECEAPdirectors.doc

Upcoming DECA changes

There is a new version of the electronic version of the Devereux Early Childhood Assessment (e-DECA) which we will begin using for all of ECEAP in fall 2010. DEL will purchase the e-DECA license and per-child uses for each ECEAP contractor. We will no longer purchase paper DECA. Here's why we are making the change:

- The new e-DECA 2.0 is easier to use and does not have the glitches in the older version. Nationwide, many people made the switch this year and are very positive about the new Web-based platform.
- Devereux will show-and-tell this version at the April ECEAP Directors meeting.
- Contractors will be able to print paper DECA forms for parents from e-DECA.
- It will be MUCH easier for DEL to order DECA and compile the annual results.
- This will allow infant, toddler, and preschool assessments on one database.
- Only six of 40 ECEAP contractors used the paper version of DECA this year.

The old e-DECA 1.0 will still be available to view previous year's data. The old data will not transfer into the new system. Contractors will need to set up "classes" again in e-DECA, but then it will work more smoothly than before.

Be sure to complete the DECA survey at www.surveymonkey.com/s/3FTGR6Q by March 30 to order DECA parent guides and request training. Your e-DECA will be ordered automatically, based on your number of slots for next year. If you want to order additional e-DECA uses for non-ECEAP children, see page 3 of the August 2009 Reminders and Links at www.del.wa.gov/publications/eceap/docs/09_August_RemindersAndLinks.doc

The last question of the DECA survey is in regards to the Child Enrollment Form (CEF). If the state legislature makes changes to ECEAP eligibility, DEL may develop a new CEF. If this occurs, we will want to quickly translate the form into the languages you need. This question asks you to indicate the language(s) you would use in the paper version of the CEF.

Check EMS for Incomplete Child Enrollment Forms (CEF)

The ECEAP Management System (EMS) has many CEFs with errors. DEL needs complete and accurate demographic and other child information for legislators' and researchers' requests. Please check your EMS Error/Incomplete Report and make any corrections needed as soon as possible. This report can be found using the following pathway on the EMS: CEF>Reports>Error/Incomplete Records>General-Excludes Medical/Dental/Immunization Errors>Sort by Site Code.

ECEAP Outcomes Reporting

DEL developed an online survey tool to use for reporting your outcomes, by June 30.

- Before you begin, gather your data using the paper version of this tool at www.del.wa.gov/publications/eceap/docs/ECEAPDataCollectionTools.doc.
- Those of you who are piloting the Family Outcomes survey will need to compile your data before entering it on this survey.
- SurveyMonkey works best if you enter all of the data at one sitting. You are not able to change your entries after you have submitted them to DEL.
- To complete the ECEAP Outcomes monkey go to: www.surveymonkey.com/s/Z29BYDH.

ECEAP Self Assessment

The updated 2010 ECEAP Self-Assessment form is ready. As in other years, this form walks you through each ECEAP Standard. This year, there are yes or no options for some standards, so less writing is required. Please follow the directions on the first page and send the form, due June 30, by e-mail. A thorough self-assessment and engaging parents and staff, takes several months, so this is a good time to get started! Contact your ECEAP specialist if you have questions. Download the form at www.del.wa.gov/publications/eceap/docs/SelfAssessment.doc.

Child Medical & Dental Exams

Please continue to update Child Enrollment Forms in EMS to reflect medical and dental exam dates as children complete them. We are tracking these carefully to make sure that all ECEAP children receive exams early in the school year, with time for follow-up.

Federal Poverty Guidelines

The U.S. Congress has taken action to keep the 2009 Health and Human Services poverty guidelines in effect at least until March 1, 2010. For more information, go to <http://aspe.hhs.gov/POVERTY/09extension.shtml>.

Legislative News from DEL

During legislative session, DEL provides weekly updates on issues related to early learning. These updates are meant solely to provide information on legislative matters, and do not mean DEL is supporting or opposing any piece of legislation. See *This Week in Olympia* at www.del.wa.gov/government/legislature/Default.aspx.

Service Area Agreements

The ECEAP contract states, “The Contractor must execute written service area agreements with neighboring Head Start and ECEAP programs.” These agreements must include:

- A plan for co-operative assessment of community needs and strengths.
- Enrollment and service area boundaries for each Contractor.
- A process of referral of families between agencies.
- Joint staff and parent training opportunities, if applicable.
- Commitment to communication and problem resolution.

The purpose of these agreements is to ensure that agencies cooperate to fill all ECEAP and Head Start classrooms and serve the children most in need in each community. Agreements are required when service areas abut or overlap and there is potential for recruitment of the same families. These must be updated, signed, and sent to DEL by May 30, 2010.

Training Opportunities

Washington State Association of Head Start and ECEAP (WSA) Winter Meeting, February 17 to 19, Olympia. For information go to <http://www.wsaheadstarteceap.com/> or contact Katy Warren at 253-373-9100 or katy@wsaheadstarteceap.com.

Head Start T/TA Education Disabilities Coordinator Cluster, Mar. 9, ESD 113 in Olympia. This cluster will feature the Head Start Center for Inclusion. Contact Annette Dieker at dieker_annette@bah.com for more information.

The FLIP IT Strategy: Train-the-Trainer Session March 29-30, Puget Sound ESD, Renton. The FLIP IT Strategy, one of the newest resources offered by the Devereux Early Childhood Initiative, is four supportive steps to help young children learn about their feelings, gain self-control and reduce challenging behavior. For more information or to register, go to quest.cvent.com/EVENTS/Info/Summary.aspx?e=65620654-867a-45cb-a04e-9c46e64ef9ea.

Resource Links

Head Start Impact Study Steve Barnett, co-director of National Institute for Early Education Research, summarizes what was learned from the Head Start Impact Study and suggests responses to the findings. <http://preschoolmatters.org/2010/01/15/change-we-need-responding-responsibly-to-the-results-of-the-head-start-impact-study/>

The **Perry Preschool Project** is one of the most famous education experiments of the last 50 years. The study asked a question: Can preschool boost the IQ scores of poor African-American children and prevent them from failing in school? The surprising results are now challenging widely-held notions about what helps people succeed – in school, and in life. americanradioworks.publicradio.org/features/preschool/

Pre- K Teacher Salaries One of the biggest reasons preschool teachers cite leaving the field is salary. According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, the median annual wages of preschool teachers were \$23,870 in May 2008, with the bottom 10 percent earning less than \$16,030. www.education.com/magazine/article/pre-teacher-wages/

Outdoor Play & Learning Environments Outdoor spaces designed by children can be fully naturalized and rich with a wide variety of play opportunities of every imaginable type. www.whitehutchinson.com/children/articles/outdoor.shtml

Teaching Science “In preschool, you find that kids are natural scientists, whether it’s life science, earth science, or physics. Young kids are interested in changes in the weather or whether something is hard or soft. They have a natural curiosity...”
www.edweek.org/ew/articles/2010/01/13/18preschool.h29.html?tkn=ZYYFP8Uepm5DZmPTu%2B7WjgMarnEBmHsqhdJ%2B

The Power of Magical Thinking Child-development experts are recognizing the importance of imagination and the role it plays in understanding reality.
online.wsj.com/article/SB10001424052748703344704574610002061841322.html

As States Cut Children's Services, Questions Loom According to a National Association of Child Care Resource & Referral Agencies report, cuts to programs that serve children resulted in distress of many kinds: waiting lists and reduced staff at child care centers and preschools; parents unable to pursue new jobs because they have no one to care for their children; furloughs and increasing class sizes in public schools; and children whose families are not able to provide them with enough to eat.
www.naccrra.org/policy/economic-stimulus-briefing-room/docs/January6FinalNACECMVOI.pdf

Trees Matter Regular contact with outdoor play can improve everything from a child’s reasoning and coordination to her concentration and self-discipline.
birthtothrive.thrivebyfivewa.org/post/2010/01/07/Trees-Matter-Green-Spacious-Playgrounds-Help-Everything-from-Concentration-to-Reasoning.aspx

Preschool Scientific Method With adult support, young children become more systematic and logical in how they use the scientific processes of observing, classifying, experimenting, predicting, drawing conclusions and communicating information.

www.ccie.com/resources/view_article.php?article_id=5019061

Health Resources

As Seen on TV, Foods Kids Shouldn't Be Eating Less than 1 percent of television commercials for food aimed at kids are for the type of food healthy enough that they should eat it every day. www.childrennow.org/uploads/documents/adstudy_2009.pdf

Food Group Charts These mini-posters from Tina Nelson, Snohomish County ECEAP Nutritionist, can be used by teachers and parents to show children how each food group helps their bodies. The posters are in English and Spanish.

www.del.wa.gov/publications/eceap/docs/FoodGroups_chart.pdf

www.del.wa.gov/publications/eceap/docs/FoodGroups_chartSP.pdf

Childhood Vaccines Could Be Harder to Get Most county health departments in Washington are no longer set up to do immunizations.

www.publicbroadcasting.net/kplu/news.newsmain/article/0/1/1598754/KPLU.Local.New.s/Childhood.Vaccines.Could.Be.Harder.to.Get

Apple Kids for Health Program Washington's health program for children was awarded \$7.5 million from the federal government for significantly reducing the number of uninsured children in the state.

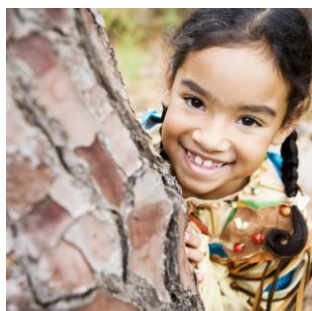
www.seattleschild.com/article/20091223/SCM01/912239990/-1/scm

Nutrition and Cognitive Development This issue of Mealtime Memo reviews research on how nutrition impacts brain development and how good nutrition can support learning in children. It includes studies on the positive impact of a good breakfast and suggestions for meeting young children's nutrition needs.

www.nfsmi.org/documentlibraryfiles/PDF/20100104092056.pdf

Breathe Easy Studies show that meditation has many health benefits, from lowering blood pressure to boosting happiness.

seattletimes.nwsource.com/html/health/2010747343_meditationhealth11.html



A close look at young children worldwide reveals the spontaneous whole-self involvement of their bodies, minds and spirits in the joyful pursuit of play...Children need free, hands-on play that is kid-organized, to maximize their potential. Nothing lights up a child's brain like play. Dr. Stuart Brown